

Diving at Work Regulations 1997

List of Approved Classes of Medical Practitioners

dated

1 November 2006

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GUIDANCE ON THIS DOCUMENT

Document status

1. This document contains regulatory requirements; it is **not** a guidance leaflet.

Document title

2. This document shall be known as: "List of Approved Classes of Medical Practitioners dated 1 November 2006".

Certificate of medical fitness to dive

3. Under regulation 15(6) of the Diving at Work Regulations 1997 (DWR)⁽¹⁾, the Health and Safety Executive (the Executive) may approve in writing as a "medical examiner of divers" such a medical practitioner who is, or falls within a class of medical practitioners as it considers suitable for the purposes of issuing a "certificate of medical fitness to dive" for the purposes of regulation 12(1)(b); and any such approval may be given generally or restricted to any class of diver or dive. Approvals generally come into force on the date that they are signed and remain in force until such time as they are revoked in writing by a person authorised in that regard by the Health and Safety Executive.

Duties of and restrictions on divers

4. Under regulation 12(1)(b), no diver shall dive in a diving project unless he/she has a valid certificate of medical fitness to dive.

Duties of the diving contractor

5. Under regulation 6(3)(d), the diving contractor shall ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, that any person taking part in the diving project complies with the requirements and prohibitions imposed on him/her by or under the relevant statutory provisions and observes the provisions of the diving plan. i.e. the diving contractor checks the diver is complying with regulation 12(1)(b).

AMED

6. The "medical examiner of divers" is generally known as an "Approved Medical Examiner of Divers" abbreviated to "AMED".

How to obtain copies of the list

7. The list is available from: HSE, Diving Operations Strategy Team, Ground Floor - South Wing, Rose Court, 2 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HS (telephone number: 020 7717 6757), or Employment Medical Advisory Service, Pegasus House, 375 West George Street, Glasgow G2 4LW (telephone number: 0141 275 3029) and also published on the internet: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/diving/information.htm>

¹

S.I. 1997 No. 2776.

DIVING AT WORK REGULATIONS 1997

APPROVED CLASS OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS UNDER REGULATION 15(6)

1. On behalf of the Health and Safety Executive I hereby approve under regulation 15 of the Diving at Work Regulations 1997 ("DWR")⁽²⁾ the classes of medical practitioners specified in the Schedule to this document, for the purpose of issuing a certificate of medical fitness to dive for the purposes of regulation 12(1)(b) of DWR.
2. The list of approved class of medical practitioners as of 6 October 1998 is revoked and this approval shall come into operation on the date on which it is signed and shall remain in force until such time as it is revoked in writing by a person authorised in that regard by the Health and Safety Executive.

Date: 1 November 2006

C J Sherman

A person authorised to perform functions under
Regulation 15(6) of the Diving at Work Regulations
1997 on behalf of the Health and Safety Executive

² S.I. 1997 No. 2776.

SCHEDULE

Classes of Medical Practitioner

Netherlands class of Medical Practitioner

Diving Doctors approved under Netherlands Working Conditions Decree dated 1 January 2003, Section 5, Article 6.14b – Diving Doctors.

Note: The medical certificate issued under Netherlands Working Conditions Decree dated 1 January 2003, Section 5, Article 6.14a – Occupational Health Examinations – is automatically recognised as a certificate of medical fitness to dive under the Diving at Work Regulations 1997.

Northern Ireland class of Medical Practitioner

Medical practitioners approved under Statutory Rule 2005 No. 45 – The Diving at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 – Regulation 15.

Note: The certificate of medical fitness to dive issued under Statutory Rule 2005 No. 45 – The Diving at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 is automatically recognised as a certificate of medical fitness to dive under the Diving at Work Regulations 1997.

Norwegian class of Medical Practitioner

Doctors approved under Norwegian regulations to carry out diving medical examinations and issue medical certificates.

Note: The medical certificate issued under the Norwegian regulations is automatically recognised as a certificate of medical fitness to dive under the Diving at Work Regulations 1997.

Republic of Ireland class of Medical Practitioner

An approved doctor, approved under Statutory Instrument 422 of 1981 – Safety in Industry (Diving Operations) Regulations 1981 – regulation 12.

Note: The certificate that the person is fit to dive issued under Statutory Instrument 422 of 1981 – Safety in Industry (Diving Operations) Regulations 1981 – regulation 12 is automatically recognised as a certificate of medical fitness to dive under the Diving at Work Regulations 1997.

United Kingdom Ministry of Defence class of Medical Practitioner

Service medical officers and civilian medical practitioners authorised to conduct and record diving medical examinations on service personnel in accordance with BR 1750A – Handbook of Naval Medical Standards, date of issue 2004, Chapter 8 – Medical standards for diving and hyperbaric exposure.

Note:

1. The certificate of medical fitness to dive issued in accordance with 1750A – Handbook of Naval Medical Standards, date of issue 2004, Chapter 8 – Medical standards for diving and hyperbaric exposure is automatically recognised as a certificate of medical fitness to dive under the Diving at Work Regulations 1997 whilst the person holding the certificate is employed by the Ministry of Defence as a member of the armed forces of the Crown.
2. When at work but not being employed by the Ministry of Defence a certificate of medical fitness to dive issued by an HSE approved medical examiner of divers (AMEDs) is required. Noting that a number of service medical officers and civilian medical practitioners are also AMEDs.